



Holly Wolcott <holly.wolcott@lacity.org>

Arts District District Plan

Ran Boytner <rboytner@gmail.com>

Tue, Oct 8, 2013 at 11:19 AM

To: Holly Wolcott <holly.wolcott@lacity.org>

Cc: daniel.whitely@lacity.org, noreen.vincent@lacity.org, gretchen.smith@lacity.org, christy.numano-hiura@lacity.org, beverly.cook@lacity.org, Miranda Paster <Miranda.Paster@lacity.org>, rosemary.hinkson@lacity.org, phil.lam@lacity.org, Rick Scott <rick.scott@lacity.org>, eugene.vancise@lacity.org, Jose Huizar <Jose.Huizar@lacity.org>, Paul Habib <paul.habib@lacity.org>

Dear Ms. Wolcott and Staff at City Clerk,

It was brought to our attention that you had some concerns about the District plan that was filed by our organization – the Arts District Community Council Los Angeles (ADCCLA) – a month ago.

You wrote in your e-mail *"As you all know, Marco is trying to form a BID under the Alpha ordinance. Against Advice, he is already out to petition. He has also placed the City Clerk's name and address at the top of the edition potentially giving the false impression that it is endorsed by this office...."*

First, please note that ADCCLA is a community organization consisting of local residents and property owners that are tax payers in this district and thus have immediate and direct interest in the outcome of any tax or assessment levied on us. As caring and active citizens of the Arts District, this city and this state, we demand to be recognized by public officials as equals to any other organization operating in the area and that our voice be equally considered regardless the personal, political or ideological views of city officials. This is not only our legal right, it is also the proper, ethical and moral thing to do. Second, we have now personally met with staff at your office (Miranda and Rosemary) as well as our new City Attorney and despite numerous requests, we have yet to be informed in writing on what grounds the ADCCLA submittal does not comply with the valid ALPHA Bid ordinance that was adopted by City Council.

ADCCLA spent significant resources to study this matter and reached out to both the community and government officials. While the Board members of the old disbanded BID (ADLA) rushed in with a modified copy of their district plan, we took the time to study the needs of the community. We concluded that a Community Benefit District is the best structure to represent the Arts District and use of our tax dollars. I am happy to report that our District plan is receiving strong community support.

ADCCLA's decision to send out copies of our District plan to the community (the same plan submitted to the City Clerk four weeks ago that so far has been collecting dust on a shelf) was driven by the fact that the competing plan was processed by the City in record time and we had to make sure that Arts District stakeholders were made aware they had a choice. By providing our plan to the community and soliciting support we were able to inform and provide our stakeholders with the option to choose rather than signing a single plan without knowing that an alternative existed. An arbitrary deadline of September 27th for returning signed petitions was set by the ADLA that would have clearly prevented people from knowing they had a choice.

We have checked with our legal counsel and were assured that there is nothing wrong with providing the information as well as soliciting support to our District plan. As was discussed with Miranda and Rosemary, we are fully aware that if the plan should require changes, we would have to update the information accordingly and ask for new signatures.

Whether by design or unintentional, we – and a large portion of our community in the Arts District – are feeling that the delay in reviewing our plan plays into the hands of a small group of large property owners that are hoping to reach their petition level before the city certifies our plan. We sincerely hope and wish that our government work for its citizens and that our CBD will receive your immediate attention and review as it was conceived, created and supported by a large constituency in the Arts District. We resent the implication that the ADCCLA is a tool being used

to advance political agendas by outside entities. We are as authentic, capable and caring citizens as any other group inside or outside the city and have the undeniable right to present and advance our vision of the future and to be taken seriously by government officials – elected or appointed.

We ask that all back room deals and slandering discussions cease immediately, that respect to all groups be restored, and that transparency and choice be awarded to our community. We further ask that the City Clerk and City Attorney review our valid and legal District Plan immediately ending any further delays. Our community and this plan deserve to be taken seriously.

Sincerely,
Dr. Ran Boytner
President of ADCCLA

--
Ran Boytner, Ph.D.

Director, Institute for Field Research
Co-Founder, USC Institute for Shared Heritage
Co-Director, Tarapaca Valley Archaeological Project
Co-Director, Moqi Archaeological Project

Institute for Field Research
1855 Industrial St. #106
Los Angeles CA. 90021
Tel: (424) 226-6130
www.ifrglobal.org

